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especially during the recent meeting of the American and British Association for the Advancement of Science. I have been much gratified to hear expressions of admiration of the collection, many of the specimens being pronounced unique in their character, and not represented in the museums of Europe.

In conclusion, I embrace the opportunity of thanking those of my friends who have expressed a warm interest in my work, and have aided me with valuable suggestions. I take the liberty of making special mention of Dr. Leidy, Mr. W. W. Jefferis, Clarence S. Bement, and Dr. W. S. W. Ruschenberger.

Very respectfully submitted,

JACOB BINDER,
Curator.

REPORT OF THE MICROSCOPICAL AND BIOLOGICAL SECTION.

During the past year, eighteen stated meetings and one public exhibition were held.

The average attendance of members was about fifteen.

At the exhibition given in September to the visiting members of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a very large audience was present, and the display of microscopes and objects excelled all previous ones, both in number and in scientific importance.

During the year, Dr. N. A. Randolph, Dr. Benjamin Sharp, and Joseph Mellor were elected members.

Edward S. Campbell, Hugo Bilgrim, and Sara Gwendolen Foulke were announced as contributors.

Dr. J. H. Simes and Prof. H. C. Lewis resigned membership.

Dr. Robert E. Rogers died.

Among the more important contributions by members during the year, were :—

A lecture, December 17, 1883, by Dr. M. B. Hartzell. Subject—The Bacteria.

February 4, 1884, by Dr. Benjamin Sharp. Subject—Section Cutting.

March 17, by Mr. W. N. Lockington. Subject—The Fishes of North America and the West Coast.

April 21, by Dr. Sharp. Subject—The Eye of the Invertebrates.

May 5, by Dr. J. G. Hunt. Subject—Fertilization in Some Plants.

May 9, by Dr. Hunt. Subject—The Bioplasm of the Cell.

June 2, by Dr. Geo. A. Rex. Subject—The Myxomycetes of Fairmount Park.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBT. J. HESS, M.D.,

Recorder.

REPORT OF THE CONCHOLOGICAL SECTION.

The Recorder of the Conchological Section respectfully reports that during the past year, the Academy has, as heretofore, continued to publish such papers upon the subject of the Mollusca as have been approved by its Publication Committee.

One member and seven correspondents have been elected. We have no deaths to report; neither has there been any change made in the By-Laws governing the Section.

From the eighteenth annual report of Mr. Geo. W. Tryon, Jr., Conservator, we find that during the year ending December 1, 1884, sixty donations of mollusks and shells have been received from thirty-one persons. The number of trays and labels thus added to the collection is 1126, of specimens 5224; larger accessions in both cases than for several previous years. The Conchological Museum now contains 42,448 trays and written tablets, with 151,015 specimens.

The most important accession of the year is a remarkably fine suite of shells, collected last winter by Mr. Henry Hemphill, on the West Coast of Florida. Most of the specimens are in much finer condition than those previously in our Museum, from the same region; many of them, hitherto known as West Indian, are now first ascertained to inhabit our coast, and not a few are new species. During the last summer, at the instance of Mr Wm. G. Binney, Mr. Hemphill explored the mountains of North Carolina for *Helices*, collecting a number of rare and fine specimens, of which, by Mr. Binney's generosity, we have obtained a share. This winter Mr. Hemphill is again spending on the Florida Coast, southward of his last year's operations, and arrangements have been made by which we shall receive a series of his collections.

A very complete suite of the shells of our national capital were presented by Mr. F. Lehnert.